GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:972
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2015
DD Terrestrial Network
Chudasama Shri Rajeshbhai Naranbhai

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of rural viewers who are accessing Doordarshan (DD) through its terrestrial network;

(b) the percentage of the total expenditure of Doordarshan that is spent on terrestrial distribution;

(c) the progress of terrestrial digitization of Doordarshan so far; and

(d) whether the Prasar Bharati Expert Committee has suggested for switching off Doordarshan's analog terrestrial broadcasts and if so, the timeline for implementing the same?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
{COL RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.) }

(a) Prasar Bharati has informed that currently, the viewership data received does not show the terrestrial viewership for rural viewers separately. However, the total viewership of DD Channel over the last 6 weeks is placed at Annexure-A.

(b) Annually, around 29% of the total expenditure of Doordarshan is spent on terrestrial distribution.

(c) In January, 2003, Doordarshan had set up four digital transmitters, one each at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai on an experimental basis using Digital Video Broadcasting Transmission (DVB-T) System, to gain experience in digital transmission technology. As part of the 11th Plan Scheme, 4 High Definition TV (HDTV) digital High Power Transmitters (HPTs) have been installed at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata & Chennai and are ready for commissioning. 63 digital HPTs (40 Nos in 11th Plan and 23 Nos in 12th Plan) have also been approved as part of digitization schemes. Out of 63 digital HPTs, 16 digital HPTs are ready for commissioning and another 3 digital HPTs are at advanced stage of completion. Action has been initiated for setting up of remaining 44 digital HPTs.

(d) The Committee has recommended digitization of Terrestrial TV operations based on commercial viability. At present, there is no time-line for Analog Terrestrial TV Switch off.

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